

Friday. July 12. 1929

Yes, we would like very much to
dine on Sunday if it all right
for you - (Clive, Leonard & Virginia).
We will aim at 7-30, but
don't on any account wait -
(Had only a cold monthful, - & a Kiss.
And heavens he blurted, something
has occurred which makes the
night a blank - (I want to say what)
I ~~think~~ I mean a waste. So
it would be better to fix August 7th say.
Any day or even as you are back; any
night.

V.

Monday
Aug. 12. 1929.

Dearest Creature,

I don't think I shall be able
to come this week - I've had
to return to bed with the
usual old pain, not very
bad & the price of my life
value I return your hospitality
Lord! what a relief that was!
But I doubt that I shall be
very energetic this week; so
I'll say the week after,
& will let you know.
Meanwhile with you and

at least a line to say what
happened about Hilda - I
particularly want to know the
situation with respect to
Janet, as I have a right to
write to her. And please
make Hilda see that it
was all your ^{NYPL} ~~dark~~ ^{dark} ~~legion~~ ^{legion}.

I am lying in my garden room
between open windows - and
that I felt just well when I
saw you. & I wish I
could see you now.

I feel very happy about Virginia & Potts
& dear old Rita: yes, I do, -
would say so
more eloquently
if I were
in bed.

Aug 15 -

Wm. Home

Dearest Creature

I am just well again, & spent the morning writing. It wasn't you; as you were only the tail end - I had been badgered by people in London, & then this writing of four articles, all pressed as tight as bagging a sack (an image that comes from the Land) - that was what did it - not that it was bad. These headaches leave one like a sand which a wave has uncovered - I believe they have a mystic purpose. Indeed, I'm not sure that there isn't some religious cause at the back of them - I see my own workmen & failure so clearly; & his saying into the depths of the misery of human life; & then one gets up - everything begins again & it's all covered over.

And now I see Geoffrey Jost is dead, at my age - no a year younger. Do you mind? Does it bring back the hot afternoon when the Salvation Army called, & the news where he almost strangled you when you were late, & the scene on the Downs? I didn't like him; at least I didn't trust him for some obscure reason - I met him at Mr. Rown's over 20 years ago. Last ^{many} ^{Hutchings} ^{but} ^{was} ^{there} I took up my pen to say that I hope, if you see Hilda,

LEWES SUSSEX

12.15 PM

16 AUG 25



The Hon.

Mr. H. Nicolson

Long Barn

Weald

Dictate

Sevenoaks

Kent

You will make her understand, not merely superficially, that Janet
Vaughan was as blameless as anybody could be - more joking
& affectionate at that, - I mean I shouldn't have minded to hear
what she said said you; & to show how casual & lightly
meant it was, she never even gave me a hint that Hilda
could seriously entertain those passions. It was merely
Oh how amazing it would be if Hilda could fall in love -
& then nothing more, but what I took seriously - that you
the plan had been made many weeks or months.

When shall I come? I don't know - But what about
next week - towards the end, say Friday, when I
shall have written the last word of these & concluding
little biographies. And what about a treat
morning to some place - spending a night in an
inn, first having dined?

I got out of all my engagements & left Florence,
who comes for Sunday.

Leonard & Percy are measuring the
tank with a vast tape. I want to see
what it's all about.

Returning to Geoffrey,
after all you saw him what was his phrase - rest &
freedom? I remember he said something I was saying.
And then to be dead in New York -

W.

And what about your
back? Write &
say.

Mount Vernon
Sunday 18th Aug.

I am very much distressed about your back. I wish you would
answer, if only in pencil or a card, these questions. 1. Have
you seen a doctor? 2. What does he say? 3. Are you better?
Surely it has never been anything like as bad as this. Have you
got rheumatism in it? Is it very painful? Leonard
says that the male principle of ^{fern seed} ~~fern seed~~ which paralyzes
the nerves of the stomach is miraculous - It cured
Pinkie's rheumatism in a moment, though meant to
cure her worms. No, it would have been no good my
coming, but when will it be any good, my coming?
Leonard & Homer ^{Plomer} are playing bowls on the terrace, & we
are going to dine at Charleston & send rockets up with
the sky - Quentin's birthday party. Do you see I am
recovered, & have, more or less, finished my article. The last
was Dorothy Woodworth, & is the written word could
cure rheumatism, I think her's right - like a dock leaf
laid to a sting; yet rather astringent too. Have you
ever read her diary, the early one, with the nightingale
singing at Alloxden, & Clevedon coming in swollen-eyed -
to cut a mountain chop? Woodworth made her
head ache, thinking you Chittat for Cuckoo. I like them
very much; but I can't say I enjoy writing about them,

LEWES SUSSEX

12. 15 PM

19 AUG 29



The Hon.

Mr. Nicolson

Long Barn

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Sevenoaks

Kent

him have close pressed. How can one get it all in? Flower
is a nice young man, rather prim & tight outwardly, concealing
a good deal I think I suppose I'm completely bound by
the calculating as to facts' merits. Nobody is better than anybody
else - I like him - I don't bother my head about their work.
All this measuring is a futile affair, & it doesn't matter
who writes what. But this is my free & genuine wisdom - at
his age I wanted to be myself. And then, - here is a
great storm of rain. I am obsessed at nights with the idea
of my own worthlessness, & if it were only to turn a light on to
save my life I think I would not do it. There are the
last footprints of a headache I suppose. Do you ever feel that? -
like an old weed in a stream. What do you feel, lying in bed?
I dare say you are visited by sublime thoughts - I saw Raymond
yesterday who is off travelling for two months, & seemed vaguely
aware of some change in Harold's life. And we hastily
exchanged the last news of Vita. in Lower High Street,
begging mines.
mines.

I shall be in London on Tuesday, & in the
drawing room at eleven o'clock; if you liked to ring me up
but I don't suppose you can ring me up, & so it is no
use my ringing you up either. Here's a thing about
George Salt by demand. - no I can't find it.
Anyhow, my dear creature, let me know how you are.
& lastly how you are. Potts knows you & says
he could rub your back & soothe it by licking.
Virginia

1899

5 PM

G 29

LOWES SURGEY

7 45 PM

24 AUG 29



The Hon.

Mr. H. Nicholson

Long Barn

Weald

Sevenoaks

Kent.

Maudie Moore,

Saturday

Might I come on Wednesday
for the night? - Could
you let me know?

I think there's a train from
Lewer to Sevenoaks - for
there's no question of your
being able to meet me - but
I've no time at the moment
to look it out.

The
Vorn, as you call her is arriving
And I've no time to write a
letter, much as your's deserves
an answer. And how are

you? The best sleeping draught is
And it ale at bedtime: any college
fellow or a college will get it, &
if you don't like it, I will
drink it.

A thousand different varieties
of love are ~~reared~~ raised
when you, like the Thoren
from a gigantic watering
post by Virginia &
Bosman.

NYPL